

# **VIRGIL C. AND ESTHER SOPHIA ANDERSON HOWE**

Virgil C. Howe was born August 23, 1876, at Tomsbrook, Va., a son of Thomas and Mary Jane Lichliter Howe. Married Esther Sophia Anderson February 14, 1905, in the Salt Lake Temple. She was born May 22, 1882, at Soderkoping, Sweden, a daughter of

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Esther A. Howe

## **DANIEL BIOGRAPHIES**



John Peter and Eva Sophia Wahlquist Anderson. Esther died May 3, 1945, and Virge died in 1947.

Virgil Clyde Howe with his sister, Arbelia, who married William H. Harvey, and another brother, William, were brought to Wasatch County by an uncle, James J. Howe, to make their home. Virge made his home with his uncle until a young man, and worked on the farm with his uncle.

On February 14, 1905, he and Esther Sophia Anderson, daughter of John and Eva Sophia Anderson were married in the Salt Lake Temple. He worked at farm work and sheep herding and shearing and later owned a small farm where the family was raised. He did some carpentering and when the Woods-Cross Canning Co. came to Heber to establish a pea cannery he worked for the company.

Virge took an active part in politics, as a staunch Republican. He was constable at Daniel for several years.

When home theatricals were very popular Virge very often took leading roles. He was a very fine character actor. Esther took parts in plays also. Virge played the guitar and with other local musicians played for dances. He often "called" for square dances. He taught classes in Sunday School for some time. He was also water master for the Daniel Irrigation Company for a few years.

Esther helped her parents on the farm until she was married. She also worked in the Sunday School and the Primary Association.

Virge and Esther were the parents of:

Virginia, Clyde, George Martin, Odessa Marie, Wendell, and Pershing. 873

## **RELIGIOUS LIFE**



Delores McDonald



Stella Bethers



Sarah E. Anderson



Lafreda Zufelt



Delsa Price



Edna Grundy

1887-1893; Phoebe Mc. M. Bethers, 1893-1900; Margaret Howe, 1900-1901.

Buysville included Celestia C. Buys, 1879-1891; Sarah Jane Thacker, 1891-1895; Sarah J. Shelton, 1895-1901; Matilda Nelson, 1901-1903.

In the Daniel Primary Association, presidents have been Mary Ann McD. Sims, 1903 to 1904; Sarah Jane Shelton, 1904 to 1908; Esther A. Howe, 1908 to 1912; Maude B. Orgill, 1912 to 1913; Elizabeth McD. Swain, 1913 to 1914; Ada Mortensen Swain, 1914 to 1916; Susanna Jane Shelton, 1916 to 1917; Minnie Witt McDonald, 1917 to 1921; Edna Pierce, 1921 to 1925; Isabelle T. McGuire, 1925 to 1932; Delores C. McDonald, 1932 to 1936; Stella McD. Bethers, 1936 to 1940; Sarah O. Anderson, 1940 to 1948; LaFreda W. Zufelt, 1948 to 1950; Delsa Price, 1950 to 1960; and Edna Grundy, 1960-.

Superintendents of the Sunday School have included the following:

Buysville: Edward Buys, Henry Nelson, Samuel Wing, Swen Bjorkman, William Thacker, John L. Bell and John Thacker.

Daniels Creek: James J. Howe, William S. Bethers, P. H. McGuire and Eli Gordon.

Daniel Ward: Joseph C. McDonald, Walter Swain, Otto Anderson, Arthur E. Bjorkman, F. Preston McGuire, Clifford McDonald, Walter Plummer, Thomas Orgill, Leonard Bethers, Charles Remund, Bernell Orgill, Lloyd Jacobsen, Joseph Gordon and Bernell Luke.

the advisability of urging a consolidation of the districts of Wasatch County into a high school district.

After much discussion, the parties decided to go in body to each of the other districts and lay before them the feasibility of the plan. Accordingly the trustees of Midway, Charleston, Daniel, Center, Wallsbury, Elkhorn and Riverdale, were visited with an accumulating number of members, all of whom were favorable to the consolidation.

"The County Superintendent was then petitioned by the trustees of the respective districts, save Wallsbury, to call an election wherein the citizens could express their wishes in the matter, by ballot. The result of this election showed an overwhelming majority from each district in favor of local high school instruction.

"A later election chose J. W. Clyde and D. A. Broadbent from Heber; Chas. I. Bronson and Geo. A. Huntington from Midway; J. M. Ritchie and E. L. Cropper, Charleston; Virgil Howe and W. S. Plummer, Daniel; H. W. Harvey and A. M. Hanson, Center; Jas. McDonald and Wm. Davis, Elkhorn; J. R. Baum and Geo. B. Jordan, Riverdale; who with Superintendent Orson Ryan as chairman comprised the first board of trustees.

"On canvassing the various districts for prospective high school students, it was found there were more than a hundred eligible for entrance, twenty-five of whom were eligible for second year work. For this reason the board decided to offer, during our initial year, a two-year course; which resulted in the enrollment of 75 first year and 25 second year students.

"At the opening of our 2nd year, a third year course was added. The year closed May 13, 1910, with a graduating class of 18 members.

"With J. W. Robinson as principal and the loyal and substantial support of our citizens, we have hastily become an institution second to no rural high school in the state.

"Through the courtesy of the citizens of Heber we are privileged to hold forth in quarters of their school building and in rooms over the Heber Mercantile, pending the erection of our high school home.

"With Andrew L. Neff and his assisting faculty for the coming year we may proudly say that the sons and daughters of Wasatch need no longer leave the county for first class high school work."

This enthusiastic report then continued with a description of the various classes to be offered during the 1910-11 school year, and the extra-curricular sports and cultural activities.

The first high school faculty consisted of three persons, Prof. Robinson, the principal, James Johnson and O. A. Whitaker. The second year, an English teacher, Ramona Wilcox, a domestic arts teacher, Florence Billings and an athletic coach, Henry Raile, were added to the faculty.

Equipment for the school rooms was hard to come by, and many stu-



Threshing time at Center Creek. Shown here are Albert Giles on the wheel of the old tractor, with Archie Briggs on the ground and James W. Lindsay on the thresher.

Threshing time in late summer or early fall also brought hard work and excitement to the farms. Most farmers would pool their efforts, and travel from farm to farm to complete the work. Threshing crews generally consisted of from 10 to 15 men.

For weeks in advance the women-folk would plan the food, and dishes would be borrowed and loaned all over the community. Pies, cakes and steamed puddings would be cooked for days before the men were scheduled to arrive. Then, when the threshing machines rolled into the fields, vegetables, meats, home made bread, pickles and jam were all added to the menu. The men who sat down to the tables put away the food almost as fast as the threshing machines ate up the bundles of wheat or oats in the fields. And, it seemed more than coincidence that the break-downs usually occurred at the places where the food was best.

However, life was more than just hard work for the farmers. In the evenings they enjoyed taking part in dramatics, in music and in sports. Center always boasted excellent ball teams, and some of the best players included the three Ryan brothers, Homer, Ern and Frank along with Jack and Alex Allison, Nels Miller, Virge Howe, Jim Lindsay Jr., and Orvis Call. Hugh W. Harvey was an excellent singer, and in company with Livingston Montgomery provided some of the musical highlights of the valley. He also took leading roles in dramatics along with the Cluff family. Dancing also occupied a large part of the social life, and people would travel from the community to community to enjoy dancing parties. Jim Wheeler, Henry Walker, William and Homer Ryan, Dick Duke, Ed